

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF CHERYL KIMBALL

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cheryl Kimball and her service to Virginia's First District and the Nation.

Prior to joining my office, Cheryl spent over a decade working on Capitol Hill.

She came to D.C. in 1988 to work for Senator Bennett Johnston from her home state of Louisiana. In the subsequent years, she worked for the Senate Commerce Committee and Senate Committee on Foreign Relations as well as Congressman John Mica from Florida.

Cheryl joined my Stafford office in July 2016 as a District Representative and served in that role until December 2022. She contributed tremendously to providing the best constituent service in the Commonwealth and the Nation, helping countless constituents with their problems. She also effectively represented myself, my team, and my work throughout the Fredericksburg region and the First District. Her work has been invaluable.

I would like to thank Cheryl for her contributions and dedicated service over the last 6 years. Overall, she has nearly 20 years of federal service. She has been a key member of my district office team, and I wish her the best as she enters her well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Cheryl Kimball for her service to Virginia's First District and the Nation. May God bless Cheryl in whatever she decides to do next.

INTRODUCTION OF CLEAN WATER SRF PARITY ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Clean Water SRF Parity Act," with Congressman MIKE BOST (R-IL).

This legislation would make nonprofit cooperatives and publicly regulated utilities operating wastewater treatment plants eligible under the Clean Water Act's State Revolving (Loan) Funds. These same entities are already eligible under the Safe Drinking Water Act's State Revolving (Loan) Funds and, by extension, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) revolving loan fund.

For 2022, California's State Water Resources Control Board awarded \$2.7 billion for drinking water and wastewater treatment projects. According to most recent Clean Watersheds Needs Survey, California needs an estimated \$26.2 billion in federal, state, and

local investment for wastewater treatment, wastewater recycling, and stormwater pollution prevention infrastructure over the next 20 years. This includes an estimated \$24.4 billion needed to modernize aging water infrastructure across the state.

Under the federal Clean Water Act, each state capitalizes its own State Revolving (Loan) Fund to provide public financing and grants for wastewater, water reuse, stormwater, and surface water pollution reduction projects to keep our nation's waterways clean. Since this public financing is paid back with interest to help recapitalize each State's State Revolving (Loan) Funds, there is no net cost to American taxpayers.

Our bill restricts eligibility for publicly regulated utilities to the amounts greater than the \$1,638,826,000 appropriated for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program in fiscal years 2020 and 2021. That way, we ensure that this new eligibility for nonprofit cooperatives and publicly regulated utilities does not come at the cost of municipally owned utilities and public projects under the program.

As a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which authorizes all Clean Water Act programs, I strongly support increased federal funding for the State Revolving Fund program. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), of which I am an original cosponsor, provided more than \$11.7 billion in new federal funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds nationwide.

With enactment of the "Clean Water SRF Parity Act," I expect the National Association of Water Companies, Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities, Utility Workers Union of America (AFL-CIO), and American Public Works Association to advocate for increased federal funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds each year.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members of the House to cosponsor this bipartisan, non-controversial bill.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM "BILL" HAROLD PRESTAGE

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William "Bill" Harold Prestage of Clinton, North Carolina, to honor all that he has done to benefit North Carolina and our great nation.

Bill was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan on June 15, 1935, to Richard and Lorraine Prestage. Bill graduated from Lakeview High School in Battle Creek, Michigan in 1955 and later attended Western Michigan University. In 1960, Bill, his wife, and their kids moved to South Carolina so Bill could start his new job selling Master Mix feeds for Central Soya. Despite having no agriculture experience, Bill

quickly proved to be a natural salesman and was awarded Central Soya's coveted "Wildcat" sales award. Bill then moved to North Carolina to service a larger sales area, which led to him meeting Otis Carroll who owned a feed mill. Bill and Mr. Carroll became friends and eventually became partners in what became known as Carroll's Foods. Carroll's Foods was a huge success as it revolutionized the turkey and hog industry by adapting new techniques that would lead to the concept that we now call vertical integration.

After Otis Carroll passed away in 1981, Bill sold his share in the business to the Carroll family. In 1983, Bill and his family started Prestage Farms in Harrells, North Carolina with 22 employees and 18 contract growers. Bill and his team were able to expand his newly found family business to become 1 of the largest family-owned and family-operated animal protein production companies in the nation. Currently, the Prestage family of companies has 5 divisions across 7 different states with 3 processing plants and provides employment to nearly 2,500 people and holds contracts with over 450 family farms. 5 of Bill's grandchildren have joined the company and are learning the ropes of the business from Bill and Marsha's 3 brilliant sons.

Bill had a deep appreciation for all his employees and contract growers that he got to know throughout his life, and he always made sure they were recognized for all their hard work. These individuals served as the foundation of the business and helped make Prestage Farms what it is today.

Bill was inducted into the North Carolina Poultry federation Hall of Fame in 2003 and into the North Carolina Pork Council Hall of Fame in 2005. In addition, Bill chaired the North Carolina Agricultural Foundation Board, served on the Vet Med Foundation Board and served as president of the National Turkey Federation.

Bill and Marsha were both recognized with the Menscer Cup, which is North Carolina State University Foundation's highest award for philanthropy, dedication and leadership. Bill and Marsha were recognized with this prestigious award after donating millions of dollars to North Carolina State University, which would go towards supporting research, teaching, and other programs provided by the university.

Bill had a love for the outdoors and had a passion for promoting conservation efforts. Some of his hobbies included upland bird hunting, boating, and fishing. Bill married to his caring and loving wife and business partner, Marsha, for 68 years. Bill and Marsha had 3 sons, Ronald, Scott, and John Prestage. Bill was known as "Poppy" to his 9 grandchildren, Kate Prestage Poplin, Zach Prestage, Max Prestage, Billy Prestage, Stephanie Prestage, Dr. Kay I in Prestage, Ben Prestage, Bill Prestage, and Vanna Prestage; and 3 great-grandchildren Charlotte and Claire Poplin, and Marsha Prestage.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the incredible life of Mr. William "Bill" Harold

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Prestage and the tremendous legacy he leaves behind.

RECOGNIZING GARY LEE
DILLAHUNTY

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation and the Citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2022 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Gary Lee Dillahunt, Sergeant, United States Marine Corps, of Southlake, Texas for the honorable service he performed while in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

ML Dillahunt enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1968, serving as a Motor Transport Marine during the Vietnam War, billeted as the staff driver for 3 different general officers during his tenure in Vietnam. His decorations include the Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal.

The selflessness Mr. Dillahunt demonstrated in the U.S. Marine Corps continues with his service to community. He has worked as a general contractor for most of his life and extended his professional knowledge towards helping many in his community with projects around their homes and helping many build their dream home.

Mr. Dillahunt's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Marine Corps and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
ALFREDO TREVIÑO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Dr. Alfredo Treviño, who passed away on December 25, 2022.

A native of Laredo, Texas, a doctor, a veteran, and a community leader, Dr. Treviño led a remarkable life. After completing medical school at the University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Dr. Treviño joined the U.S. Air Force as a Major and completed his internship and residency at Lackland Air Force Base, during which time he treated veterans of the Vietnam War.

He moved back to Laredo in 1978 and opened the Treviño Eye Clinic, where he would go on to practice for 43 years. He cared for indigent patients and provided services to local clergy and the Sacred Heart Children's Home. An active member of the Laredo Day-break Rotary, he attained a perfect attendance record at meetings over 36 years.

Having established a successful medical practice, Dr. Treviño would go on to discover one of the great loves of his life: tennis. He

was an accomplished player, and he shared his love of the game with Laredoans of all ages. The City of Laredo honored him in 2011 with "Doc T Day" after he became the first Hispanic President of the United States Tennis Association Texas. The Laredo Independent School District and Martin High School named its newly renovated tennis courts after Dr. Treviño and his loving wife and partner of nearly 54 years, Tina. She shares her husband's love for the game and commitment to growing the sport in South Texas.

I consider myself profoundly lucky to have known Dr. Treviño. He touched the lives of countless South Texans, and he will be truly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. While Dr. Treviño is no longer with us, his legacy will live on in all those whose lives he touched.

EXPLANATION REGARDING
COSPONSORING A BILL

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it's appropriate for me to republish my statement of March 11, 2019 on the meaning of cosponsoring legislation. Much of that statement was a republication of my statement of September 29, 2010, as I've maintained a consistent policy on this issue. The following is a republication of my statement of March 11, 2019.

"Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 29, 2010 stated for the RECORD:

"Madam Speaker, I wish to clarify that when I cosponsor a bill, it does not necessarily mean that I agree with every part of it. At a minimum, my cosponsorship indicates that I support moving the bill forward through the legislative process, including being marked up in committee, and if sent to the floor by the relevant committee(s), then subject to consideration and amendment on the floor."

Let me reiterate that 2010 statement and provide additional background. I believe in the legislative process. I believe bills are improved during committee mark-ups and by consideration of amendments on the floor. The effect of cosponsoring a bill is to signal to the relevant committee chair(s) that I believe the bill should be marked-up in committee, a process that may well improve the bill (and in some cases may make the bill worse). When I decide to cosponsor a bill after it has completed the committee process, I do signal to the Speaker and Rules Committee that I believe the bill should be considered on the floor, and almost always under an open rule."

RECOGNIZING THE 2022 UGA FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2022 University of

Georgia Football team on their outstanding season and most importantly their victory last night at the College Football Playoff National Championship.

Head Coach Kirby Smart and his remarkable student athletes represented the University—and the State of Georgia—incredibly by pulling off an undefeated season this school year.

This is the Bulldogs' second consecutive title, as they continue to excite the college football world with their dominating performance on the field.

Finally, it is a point of pride to note that six student athletes hailing from Middle and Southwest Georgia contributed to this historic season.

Go dawgs.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF MRS. CATHY MORGAN RICHARDSON

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mrs. Cathy Morgan Richardson, a beloved pillar of the community in Hamblen County, Tennessee. Cathy passed away on October 28, 2022, after a life of faith and left a legacy of love for her family and her community.

Cathy was born in Morristown, Tennessee, and graduated from Morristown Hamblen High School West. After graduation, she worked in accounting at Laminate Specialty Plastics, then went on to a 30-year career as an employee in the office of Hamblen County's Circuit Court Clerk. She was an election official, a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, and a member of the Hamblen County Republican Party and the Republican Women's Club of Hamblen County.

Cathy was a God-fearing woman who praised the Lord every single day of her life. She was known for making everything fun and adventurous and often was the life of the party at her church events. She loved music and enjoyed hearing her daughter, Kaylan, sing and play the piano. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Morristown and was known for her smile and for encouraging others with love from her heart. She was full of Jesus and full of joy and it was contagious to her family, her friends, and her church. A frequent volunteer, she organized many events for her church and her local Women's Republican club and was nicknamed the Event Planner Extraordinaire. She brought light and laughter to every person she met and in every corner of her existence. She had the gifts of hospitality, decorating, organizing, energizing, and encouraging.

Her legacy of love includes being married to Mike, her husband of 40 years; her daughter, Kaylan, her son, Channing and his wife, Kristen; and her grandchildren Cade, Christian, and Crew.

Mr. Speaker, Cathy Morgan Richardson was a source of joy, faithfulness, and support for many in Morristown, Tennessee and I honor her life and her service to her family, her Lord and Savior, her church, and her community.

RECOGNIZING THE TRANTHAM
FAMILY AS ALABAMA'S OUT-
STANDING YOUNG FARM FAMILY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Daniel and Carla Trantham and their children, Davis, Sadie, Anna Kate, Sawyer and Callie for being named Alabama's Outstanding Young Farm Family as well as being named the nation's top young farm family during the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention. This is the first time an Alabama Farmers Federation farm family has won this award.

The Tranthams are row crop and cattle farmers who run their own feed operation. They bag and sell over 80 tons of feed and grain on a weekly basis at their storefront in Alexandria and through feed stores.

The Trantham family also sells wheat straw and Bermudagrass hay while improving yields on 1,000 acres of corn, wheat, soybeans and cotton through irrigation and seed selection. Since 2010, Daniel has more than doubled grain storage and tripled his cattle herd.

The family also operates a trucking company where Carla manages payroll.

The Tranthams are members of Leatherwood Baptist Church. Daniel is the local Young Farmers chair and serves on the Alabama Farmers Federation State Soybean Committee. Carla serves on the local Women's Leadership Committee.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this young family on these 2 great honors. Congratulations to the Tranthams.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GEN-
ERAL STEVEN ROGER RUDDER,
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
(RETIRED)

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Marine who has served our great nation for over 38 years. From a Cobra Pilot to a General Officer leading the Marine Corps largest operational command, Marine Forces Pacific, Lieutenant General Steven Rudder has made a significant impact on the Marine Corps. He has flown attack helicopters in combat and commanded Marine Aircraft Group (MAG) 26, and also was in charge of the Legislative Affairs office for the Marine Corps. During his time with the Legislative Affairs office, he was responsible for ensuring the U.S. Congress had the most up to date information on all Marine Corps ground and air programs.

He commanded the 1st Marine Air Wing in Japan with Wing deployments to Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, and Australia. He also served as the planning officer at the United States Indo-Pacific Command where he led operational planning and further strengthened relationships with our Western Pacific partners and allies.

As the Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps for Aviation, he aggressively

transitioned the F-35B aircraft program to include oversight of the historic F-35B deployment on the HMS *Queen Elizabeth*. Additionally, Lieutenant General Rudder completed the MV-22 and H-1 aircraft transitions and increased the readiness of Marine Corps Fighter force to 80 percent.

Lieutenant General Rudder finished his career by commanding Marine Forces Pacific, the largest Marine Corps command with over 80,000 Marines. Under his command, the Marine Forces Pacific reestablished a significant program with the Philippines and entered into several trilateral agreements with Japan and Australia. Lieutenant General Rudder would go on to chair the 20 nation Pacific Amphibious Leaders Symposium with his Japanese counterpart. He was a key figure in the reestablishment of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Marine Corps Air Group.

Ashore or afloat, Lieutenant General Rudder has insured our Marines were ready to fight on behalf of our nation, and on behalf of our nation's commitments to our allies and partners. For his incredible leadership, Lieutenant General Rudder was awarded the Japanese Order of the Rising Sun by former Minister of Defense Nobuo Kishi. He was also awarded the Gukun Medal, which is also called the Order of National Security Merit, signed by South Korean President Yoon Suk-Yeol. It was personally awarded by the ROK Commandant and signifies the impact Lieutenant General Rudder has made in the defense of the Pacific Theater of Operations.

Lieutenant General Rudder's awards include the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal with 1 bronze oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross with Combat "V" Device, the Defense Superior Medal (2 awards) and the Legion of Merit (2 awards). The Distinguished Flying Cross with Combat "V" Device is of particular note, as it is our Nation's highest award for extraordinary aerial achievement and in Lieutenant General Rudder's case, was awarded due to his courage and skill in combat.

I want to note the close ties Lieutenant General Rudder and his family has with my Congressional District (NC-03). They were stationed for about 10 years total in the Jacksonville, North Carolina area. His son, Dean Rudder, graduated from high school there and is a graduate of East Carolina University (ECU) and his daughter, Brittany, attended three schools in my District. Brittany currently resides in Jacksonville, where she has made it her permanent home for the past 12 years.

I would be remiss if I did not emphasize his wife, Holly, and her support of Lieutenant General Rudder's career. She was 100 percent behind him during his entire 38-year career and is a Navy veteran herself, after growing up in an Air Force family living all over the world. Needless to say, many of Lieutenant General Rudder's successes can be attributed directly to Holly's support. I wish both of them all the best as they transition to this new chapter of life. May they have fair winds and following seas. Semper Fidelis.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICARDO
MOLINA SR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Ricardo Molina Sr., who passed away on December 29, 2022.

Mr. Molina leaves behind a giant legacy. A native of Laredo, Texas, he was a tireless advocate for education and young people in South Texas. After joining the United ISD Board of Trustees in 1996, Mr. Molina spearheaded efforts to bolster school security, reduce rates of drug use and dependency, and establish the district's dropout recovery program. He was also an advocate of adult education programs in Webb County, believing that learning is a lifelong endeavor.

Mr. Molina's life is a testament to the value of education and hard work. At different times in his life, he worked in oil fields, cotton fields, and machine shops. He identified most with kids from working-class backgrounds, always fighting to ensure they had the very best opportunities in the classroom and beyond. When UISD opened a brand new, state-of-the-art middle school in August 2022, it was only fitting that the new school bear Mr. Molina's name.

As a pillar of our community, Mr. Molina will be missed dearly. My thoughts are with his loved ones, and I pray that they find comfort in the beauty of their memories with him—and in the knowledge that Mr. Molina touched the lives of so many in our community.

NEIL M. LARIMER

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation and the Citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2022 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Neil M. Larimer, Colonel, United States Marine Corps, of Southlake, Texas for the honorable service he performed while in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. Larimer was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1956, serving as an artillery officer with the Second and Third Marine Divisions during the Vietnam War. He saw combat while in convoy operations in South Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat "V" device indicating valorous actions in combat and the Purple Heart for injuries sustained in a roadside bomb blast. His other decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross, and Parachutist Badge.

The selflessness Mr. Larimer demonstrated in the U.S. Marine Corps continues with his service to his community. He has volunteered on the Executive Swimming Committee for the Amateur Athletic Union and as a Lector with his local Catholic church.

Mr. Larimer's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Marine

Corps and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING GEORGE PUKENAS, ON
HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George Pukenas, a U.S. Navy veteran who bravely served during World War II, as he celebrates his 100th birthday.

Petty Officer First Class, George Pukenas, proudly answered the call to protect his country on Landing Ship Tank (LST) 991 assigned to the Pacific Theater for over 3 years until his honorable discharge in 1946. George exemplified integrity and resilience even as his unit suffered heavy trials and losses. In grave circumstances they persevered, enduring numerous attacks and even surviving a typhoon in the South China Sea.

Earning 5 battle stars while aboard the LST 991, it was through their unwavering dedication that they successfully completed multiple operations. These efforts were later recognized as George earned honors for his commitment to our nation including the Pacific Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Ribbon, American Theater Ribbon, Victory Medal, and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

Not only through his service, but also through the life he built in Roebling, New Jersey, people know George for his commitment to family and community. Starting his career at the John A. Roebling & Sons steel mill, he worked, making submarine nets utilized in WWII amongst other vital materials. Additionally, George used his skills as an accomplished carpenter, to build a home he and his family. He accomplished a great deal through service and work and was still a supportive family man, father of 6 and husband to his beloved late wife of 45 years.

We are proud to have George call New Jersey's 3rd District home, and to have benefitted from his brave contributions to our country. It is undoubtedly true that George Pukenas is a distinguished member of our community whose actions at home and abroad have had a positive ripple effect that will continue to benefit generations to come. As George continues to enjoy hand-carving, and spending time with his family, we wish him many more years of good health and continued happiness.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF CAPTAIN THOMAS EDWARDS
DAVIS

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and remember the life of service of Captain Thomas Edwards Davis. Born in Arkansas, he attended Mississippi College, Tulane University, and Southwestern at Memphis, and entered the United States Navy in July of 1945.

As an Aviation Midshipman, Captain Davis underwent flight training at the Naval Air Station, Ottawa, Iowa; Corpus Christi, Texas; Pensacola and Jacksonville, Florida; and was designated a Naval Aviator in June 1949. He served in Fighter Squadron 173 from August 1948 until released to inactive duty in January 1950.

He was recalled to active duty in June 1950 with Reserve Fighter Squadron 791 and deployed to Korea on the USS *Boxer*. He later served with the Fleet Gunner Unit at El Centro, California as a gunnery instructor from January 1953 to August 1954. He was also a gunnery instructor at the Naval Air Station Barin Field, Alabama, from August 1954 to March 1956.

Captain Davis attended the Air Launched Missile School at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Jacksonville, FL, after which he served with Fighter Squadron 101 at the Naval Air Station Cecil Field and Key West, FL, until June 1960.

He was a student at the United State Naval Postgraduate School from August 1960 to August 1962. In September 1962, he was transferred to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operation. From September 1964 to August 1965, he was attached to the Staff of Commander Naval Air Force, United States Atlantic Fleet, as Armament Officer, after which he served as Executive Officer and later Commanding Officer of Training Squadron 9 at the Naval Air Station, Meridian, Mississippi until January 1967.

He served as the Carrier Air Traffic Control and Strike Operations Officer while on the USS *Intrepid* deployed in the Tonkin Gulf.

Leaving the *Intrepid* in August 1968 to become a student at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. Earning his Master of Science degree in International Affairs at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

He returned to the Staff of Commander Naval Air Force, United States Atlantic Fleet in July 1969. Captain Davis reported to CF-1 in June 1972 as Commanding Officer and served there until transferred to Naval Air Maintenance Training Group, NAS Memphis, in August 1975.

Captain Davis was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal, four awards of the Air Medal, the Navy Unit Commendation, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, the Vietnam Navy Distinguished Service Order and the Navy Commendation Medal. He has also earned the Korean Service Medal, the China Service Medal, the United Nations Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal.

Our Nation is forever in the debt of Captain Davis and his family for his many years of service to our country. He leaves behind a legacy of service to others that has inspired future generations. May his memory be everlasting.

COMMEMORATING THE
RETIREMENT OF BETSY RUSSELL

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the retirement of Betsy Russell, 1 of

the most effective and respected reporters in Idaho, from 37 years of remarkable reporting and editing in Idaho politics.

As reported by Clark Corbin, of the Idaho Capital Sun,

Russell started her reporting career early, joining her high school paper and covering her own graduation.

She earned a political science degree from the University of California-Berkeley and a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University.

Russell moved to Idaho in 1986 to cover Boise City Hall for the Idaho Statesman. Over the next 36 years she covered the Idaho Legislature, government and politics for the Statesman, the Spokesman-Review and Idaho Press newspapers. Along the way, she was a part of a team of Spokesman-Review journalists that was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 1993 for their coverage of Randy Weaver and the Ruby Ridge standoff in Boundary County, Idaho.

Her coverage exposed false claims made by Republican and Democratic elected officials from the campaign trail to the floor of the Idaho House of Representatives. Russell's stories led to prison reform and changes in state policy, while her work with the Idaho Press Club and Idahoans for Openness in Government sought to increase transparency in halls of power across the state.

When Russell first arrived at the Idaho Statesman, she covered then-Mayor Dirk Kempthorne and the debate about downtown Boise's redevelopment and an ill-fated proposal to build an indoor shopping mall. Gov. John Evans was nearing the end of his last term in office and Russell got her first taste of covering the Idaho Legislature and the governor's office when Kempthorne would testify at the Statehouse. Russell went on to cover six other Idaho governors closely—Cecil Andrus, Phil Batt, Kempthorne, Jim Risch, Butch Otter and Brad Little.

Russell's career included several highlights.

Russell created and wrote the Eye on Boise blog, first for the Spokesman-Review and later for the Idaho Press. that was a must-read for anyone interested in the Idaho Legislature and state government—including many of the most highest ranking and influential elected leaders in the Gem State.

In 2004, Russell and Dean Miller, a veteran Idaho and Washington newspaper editor, created Idahoans for Open Government, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to openness and compliance with the Idaho Public Records Act and Idaho Open Meetings Law.

Russell's 1997 series investigating Idaho prisons revealed the fact that nearly a quarter of Idaho's prison population was incarcerated for 4 crimes that are not even considered felonies—simple drug possession, drunk driving, driving without a license and writing bad checks—in a majority of states. The series led to a gubernatorial investigation launched by then-Gov. Phil Batt and led to several reforms. In a telephone interview, Russell called her prison series 'probably the most significant story I have covered in my career.'

I thank Betsy for her outstanding service to the citizens of Idaho. All of Idaho is better because of her premier skills and relentless commitment to accuracy. Her remarkable impact in Idaho journalism and politics will never be forgotten. I hope she enjoys her well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING MR. CLAUD “ROB”
WHEATLY, III

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Claud “Rob” Wheatly, III of Wheatly Law Group, to honor his long and illustrious career.

Rob graduated from The Citadel in 1969 and the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1972. He also served in the United States Army, where he obtained the rank of Captain. Rob specializes in property, estate planning, business, corporate, environmental law, and civil trial practice in all State and Federal Courts. During his very successful career, Rob has been the county attorney for Carteret County and is also a member of the Carteret County and North Carolina Bar Associations.

Rob recently reached his 50-year milestone as an attorney in private practice and has served over 30 years as the Carteret County Attorney. Rob began practicing law in 1972 with his father, Claud R. Wheatly Jr., making Rob the third generation of his family to practice law in Carteret County.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring this incredible and noble servant and congratulating Mr. Claud “Rob” Wheatly, III on a life of outstanding service to his community.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF DON KELLAHER, SENIOR AD-
VISOR TO THE SERGEANT AT
ARMS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor a constituent from Maryland’s Fifth District who has served this institution faithfully for decades: Senior Advisor to the Sergeant at Arms Don Kellahe. He recently retired after spending 45 years in service to the House of Representatives and deserves recognition for all that he has contributed and accomplished in that time.

Don began his long career in 1976 as a staff assistant in the former Office of the Doorkeeper before moving to the Office of the Sergeant at Arms three years later. Throughout his decades in that office, he worked in every division and held important positions, such as Director of Special Events, Director of Police Services, Deputy Sergeant at Arms, and Senior Advisor to the Sergeant at Arms.

Don played a key role in ensuring that this institution could continue to carry out its work For the People. During his tenure in the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, he helped organize 12 presidential inaugurations, ranging from President Carter’s in 1977 to President Biden’s in 2021. Additionally, Don has participated in the planning of dozens of State of the Union Addresses.

Crucially, he has worked to keep visitors, staff, and Members of the People’s House safe. That includes historic figures who have visited our Capitol, such as the Dalai Lama,

Pope Francis, Mother Teresa, and Queen Elizabeth II. From anthrax and ricin attacks to murders of U.S. Capitol Police officers and bombings of the Capitol Building, Don has also helped our brave Capitol Police navigate many challenges over the years. Recently, he supported them during the deadly insurrection that gripped our Capitol on January 6, 2021. Everyone who was here that infamous day owes a debt to Don and the others who worked to reestablish order and security on Capitol Hill, as do the American people whose democracy came under attack that day.

Mr. Speaker, Don is truly a guardian of the House of Representatives. We could not fulfill our duty to the American people without Don and numerous other staffers like him who work behind the scenes to make this institution function. He ought to be proud of all he’s done for Congress and the country, and I hope he knows how much we appreciate him and his work.

I ask that all my colleagues join me in wishing Don, his wife Antoinette, his children Amanda Walker and Anthony Kellahe, and his grandchildren Rhett Walker and Rosalie and Ainsley Kellahe happiness as he begins his well-earned retirement

HONORING MATTHEW DAVID
ANDERSEN

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Director of the Department of Commerce San Diego Office, Mr. Matthew David Andersen.

A dedicated public servant, Mr. Andersen spent 37 years committed to developing U.S. commerce on the world stage. Mr. Andersen served as the Director of the Department of Commerce San Diego Office for 25 years before recently announcing his well-deserved retirement.

Those who had the pleasure to work with Mr. Andersen say that he touched the lives and careers of many and will be dearly missed. A testament to his hard work, Mr. Andersen received the Department of Commerce’s Bronze Award for Superior Federal Service in 2015.

Mr. Andersen was an avid sports fan, loved animals, and enjoyed listening to The Beatles. He is survived by his partner, Brooke Palmer, his sister, brother-in-law, nieces, and nephews.

On behalf of the residents of California’s 52nd Congressional District, I would like to express my deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Matthew David Andersen. Furthermore, I would like to formally extend my sincere gratitude to Mr. Andersen and his unwavering commitment to providing the highest level of service throughout his decades-long career with the Department of Commerce. He is greatly missed.

TO NAME THE DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS OUT-
PATIENT CLINIC IN VALLEJO,
CALIFORNIA, AS THE “DELPHINE
METCALF-FOSTER VA CLINIC”

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce legislation to rename the Mare Island Veterans Affairs (VA) Clinic in Vallejo, California as the “Delphine Metcalf-Foster VA Clinic,” in recognition of her lifetime of service to others. A life-long resident of Vallejo, Ms. Delphine Metcalf-Foster is a veteran of the U.S. Army Reserve, longtime leader with numerous veterans service organizations, and a pillar of the community. I thank my colleague Congressman Mike Thompson (CA-4) for being the bill’s original cosponsor.

Ms. Metcalf-Foster is a disabled U.S. Army Reserve veteran who served during Operation Desert Storm and is a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal. Military service runs in her family. Her father served during the Spanish-American War and was in the U.S. Army’s 9th Cavalry Regiment, whose members were known as “Buffalo Soldiers.” After retiring as a First Sergeant (E-8) in 1996, Ms. Metcalf-Foster began her lifelong work to advocate for and assist fellow veterans.

Ms. Metcalf-Foster has served the VA Northern California Health Care System for over 25 years. She began volunteering to drive veterans to medical appointments. In 2004, she became the Commander of the Disabled American Veterans’ Ozie Boler Chapter 21 in Vallejo, DAV Department of California until 2005. Later, she served as the DAV National Commander from 2017 to 2018. This made her the first woman to become the Disabled American Veterans’ National Commander, as well as a distinguished leader of this major veterans service organization.

Ms. Metcalf-Foster is also a life-member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. In 2018, she was recognized as one of the “Mighty 25: Influencers Supporting the Military Community.” In 2019, she was selected as the Grand Marshall for the 166th Vallejo 4th of July Parade. Her expertise was sought after for testimony at hearings before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees advocating to improve outreach to and services for American veterans and those with service-connected disabilities.

It is truly an honor to reintroduce this legislation. I stand with my constituents in Vallejo and California’s 8th Congressional District to honor Ms. Delphine Metcalf-Foster and her service to veterans in our community and across the country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WAYNE
KIRBY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Wayne Kirby, who passed away on April 3, 2022, at the age of 69.

Wayne grew up in and lived his entire life in Studley, Virginia. He was the second of four boys born to I.D. and Allene Kirby. He took a keen interest in agriculture as a young boy, milking cows and feeding hogs in the morning and working on Jimmy Brannan's vegetable farm in the afternoon.

Wayne attended Lee Davis High School, where he was a proud member—and eventually the president—of its Future Farmers of America club. He graduated from Lee Davis High School in 1971, and subsequently enlisted in the Army National Guard. That same year, he bought his first car—a brand new 1971 Royal Blue Monte Carlo, which he owned and was proud of for his entire life.

After the Lee Davis High School vs. Hermitage High School football game on November 16, 1973, Wayne met his wife, Karen. They got married 5 years later on September 16, 1978. Wayne and Karen were a match made in heaven. They had 2 sons, Grayson and Graham. Wayne was extremely proud of the men his sons became.

Wayne was a dedicated farmer and member of the agricultural community in Virginia. He began his 30 years of working at Alliance Fertilizer in 1971. He purchased his mother's family farm in 1976, which became Creamfield Farm. He served as the director of the Colonial Agricultural Educational Foundation, the Virginia Grain Producers Association, the Virginia Agribusiness Council. Wayne also sat on the Colonial Farm Credit Board of Directors, and on the Virginia Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services. His involvement extended even deeper into the community as he also previously served as the director of the Virginia Corn Check Off Board, as the director of the Virginia Corn Producers Board, on the Alliance Agronomics Board, and on the Hanover County Farm Service Agency Board. Wayne's life was indeed one of service, dedicated to Virginia's agriculture community.

Wayne was also a man of unwavering faith—even during times of extreme hardship. By encouraging everyone to focus on God and His plan, he helped keep hope alive when Grayson was involved in a serious accident. Grayson eventually pulled through and is now thriving. Wayne also served as an Elder at the Mechanicsville Church of Christ, and recently served as its chairman.

Wayne's belief that "failure is not an option" positively impacted those around him. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, mentor, and friend. His life was full of service to his community, faith, and love. He will be missed. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Karen; sons, Grayson and Graham; his grandchildren, Beau and Ava; brothers, Van (Dana) and Gary (Judy); and 8 nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others in honoring the life of Wayne Kirby.

HONORING CAPTAIN THOMAS F.
MANTELL JR.

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Captain Thomas F. Mantell Jr., of Simpson County, Kentucky, who was killed while

serving in the Kentucky Air National Guard on January 7, 1948.

Earlier that day, an unidentified flying object was reported in several locations in Kentucky and Ohio. Despite the dangerous nature of the mission, Captain Mantell heroically pursued the object and paid the ultimate sacrifice while in pursuit. His death was the first of the Kentucky Air National Guard.

Captain Mantell also served as a decorated officer in the Army Air Corps, flying missions over Normandy and on D-day. For his service during World War II, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism.

In the years since Captain Mantell's untimely death, the people of Simpson County have kept his memory alive. A memorial was dedicated in his honor in 2001, and commemorations to mark the 75th anniversary will take place this year. I join the people of Simpson County in remembrance and gratitude for his bravery while carrying out his final mission.

HONORING BILL HARPER'S SERVICE TO MINNESOTA'S 4TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Bill Harper, my long time Chief of Staff, as he retires after 22 years in my office on January 6, 2023.

It has been a privilege to work the past 22 years with Bill. He exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. Bill has dedicated his life to making a positive impact for Minnesota families, communities, and businesses. For more than 2 decades he has been responsible for building and leading my congressional team. Bill's knowledge, vision, and leadership have helped shape everything my office has accomplished, particularly my work on the House Appropriations Committee.

Prior to serving in Congress, Bill managed my first election to the House of Representatives in 2000, but his commitment to public service began much earlier. For 5 years he was an outstanding Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala and Malawi where he worked with local villagers to improve their lives and livelihoods. His work as Chief of Staff to former Hennepin County Board Chair Mark Andrew, and as a personal assistant to former Minnesota Attorney General Hubert H. Humphrey, III, prepared him with the necessary skills to successfully manage a congressional office.

A significant aspect of Bill's public service is his success in nurturing the next generations of leaders and public servants. He has assembled a staff that I am exceptionally proud of—a dedicated team of public servants who bring nearly 130 years of combined service in their work on behalf of Minnesotans. In addition, numerous former staff and interns have gone on to further service in the executive branch, state government, nonprofit organizations, and elected office.

Bill has always put the people we serve first, making a remarkable difference in lives across the country and around the world. That is the essence of Bill's dedication to others. I know that Bill will continue to make important contributions to Minnesota and our nation well into the future.

On New Year's Day, the Star Tribune published a profile on Bill Harper's distinguished service in my office. In the article, he noted, "as powerful as Washington and Congress may be, we are a direct extension of the people. And it needs to stay that way." His words ring true, and it is my pleasure to enter that article into the RECORD.

As he prepares for the next chapter of his career, I wish him and his family—Roberta, Jonas, Lucia and Tiwonge—all the best. It has been an honor to have Bill serve as my Chief of Staff, and I'm grateful that he'll remain as a friend and political advisor.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to his remarkable career of service to our nation and our community.

[From the Star Tribune, Dec. 31, 2022]

AFTER MORE THAN TWO DECADES, CHIEF OF STAFF SET TO LEAVE REP. BETTY MCCOLLUM'S OFFICE

Bill Harper has been a congressional chief of staff during a crucial span in U.S. history.

His long tenure working for Democratic U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum began after the controversial 2000 presidential election and continued on past the Sept. 11 attacks, the Iraq War, the Great Recession, the outbreak of COVID-19 and the U.S. Capitol insurrection.

As he prepares to leave the job in January, Harper is aware that he was part of a transformative historical period. But he said in a recent interview about his more than two decades on the job that it all comes back "to serving the people and trying to make our democracy, and trying to make Congress, work for the people despite these enormous challenges that we faced."

Harper noted that he was part of the Peace Corps and spent time as an HIV/AIDS volunteer in Malawi before running McCollum's 2000 congressional campaign.

Said McCollum: "If anybody would have told us when we first met working on the campaign that 23 years later we would still be working together, we both would have just laughed out loud."

She said Harper is someone who does his homework, knows what he's talking about and has a very reassuring presence.

"When he says he's going to do something, he's going to do it, and he's a man of his word. And so that's how he's earned so much respect over the years," McCollum said.

During their time working together, McCollum has gone from freshman lawmaker to dean of Minnesota's congressional delegation. In November, she won a 12th term while Democrats narrowly lost control of the U.S. House. McCollum has wielded major influence in the past two years while leading the House Appropriations subcommittee handling defense spending.

"When you're at this level, you take the partisanship out of the equation and you focus on, 'This is about America; this is about our country,'" Harper said.

Democratic U.S. Rep. Dean Phillips called Harper "one of the most connected, principled, honorable and effective Capitol Hill staffers that I know of."

Looking back, Harper said the accomplishment that makes him proudest is his work with McCollum on President George W. Bush's emergency plan for AIDS relief in 2003.

"We secured language for orphans and vulnerable children," he said.

McCollum's office said in a news release when Harper's exit was announced that he will continue to work as a political adviser for the longtime Democratic lawmaker. Harper said he's interested in using his experience and skills to "work with nonprofits and

businesses to help them advance their missions, particularly in the federal space.” As he prepares to leave Congress behind, Harper said that “as powerful as Washington and Congress may be, we are a direct extension of the people. And it needs to stay that way.”

**CONGRATULATING MIDLANDS
TECHNICAL COLLEGE STUDENTS
FOR WINNING GOLD IN NA-
TIONAL SKILLS COMPETITION**

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to recognize the gold medal that the Building Construction Technology Team from Midlands Technical College (MTC) received at the SkillsUSA National Competition.

The championships include a series of career competition events beginning at the local level and continue to the state and national levels. The Midlands Technical College students excelled through each level, qualifying for the national competition in Atlanta on June 23rd where they had the opportunity to compete against the best career and technical education students in the country. Their win is monumental for South Carolina's construction industry and workforce development as it is the first time that a South Carolina technical college has won a national title in the building trades.

I applaud each of the students on the team, Alex Britigan, Taylor Mathias, Nathan Brady, Arturo Salinas, and Cameron Drake, as well as the Building Construction Program Director Robbie Sharpe, and Midlands Technical College's president, Dr. Ronald L. Rhames, for their hard work and achievements. The MTC School of Advanced Manufacturing and Skilled Trade provides an outstanding education and prepares students for successful careers in the automotive industry, graphic design production, welding technology, machine tooling, construction, and other skilled trades. The future of South Carolina's economy looks bright with the students of Midlands Technical College leading the construction industry and workforce development.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA LEGISLATIVE
HOME RULE ACT**

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Legislative Home Rule Act, which would eliminate the congressional review period for D.C. legislation. D.C. legislation takes effect after a congressional review period, unless a joint resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during the review period. The review period imposes significant costs on both D.C. and Congress, but only 3 disapproval resolutions on D.C. legislation have been enacted since passage of the D.C. Home Rule Act in 1973, and none since 1991. Yet, the D.C. Council has had to develop a Kafkaesque legislative process to comply with the review period, often having to pass the same bill multiple times. Congress loses nothing by eliminating the review period. Congress can legislate on any D.C. matter at any time, and has done so many times outside of the review period, such as through the appropriations process.

The congressional review period (30 days for civil bills and 60 days for criminal bills) is based on legislative days, not calendar days, often delaying D.C. bills from becoming law for many months. The delay forces the D.C. Council to pass most bills several times, using a cumbersome and complicated process to ensure that the operations of this large city continue uninterrupted.

Placing a congressional hold on D.C. bills has not only proven unnecessary, but has imposed costs on the D.C. government, residents and businesses. D.C. residents and businesses are placed on hold because they have no certainty when D.C. bills, from taxes to regulations, will take effect, making it difficult to plan. It is particularly unfair to require the D.C. Council to engage in this unnecessary, labor-intensive and costly process.

Last Congress, the House Committee on Oversight and Reform passed this bill as part of my District of Columbia Home Rule Expansion Act of 2022.

I urge my colleagues to support this good-government measure.

HONORING NORMA MICHAEL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a hero, Norma Michael. This Jackson, Mississippi native was on a mission to bring fresh fruits and vegetables to her neighbors, taking on the task by buying an overgrown lot on her street and planting a garden. The retiree is now feeding the elderly and other residents and hoping to inspire the start of more gardens in the inner city.

“The Lord just said Norma start a garden,” said Norma Michael. In 2020, across the street from Michael's Powers Avenue home was a lot owned by the state that sat empty for more than 20 years. She purchased it for less than \$500 with a vision.

“When I got the property, I was like, well, this will be a mighty big garden for just me,” said Michael. “So, I said, ‘Well, I’ll share it with my neighbors.’”

The Air Force vet and retiree had no experience planting, and after clearing the lot and much hard work, it's now the “Sharing is Caring Neighborhood Block Garden.” In it are rows and rows of corn, tomatoes, greens, beans, melons, strawberries, and more.

“I come out here. I tend the garden,” said Michael. “I have one neighbor that helps me to plant things, and I come out in the mornings, and I water and harvest, and then I offer the harvest to my neighbors.” Ninety-one-year-old Clara Triggs lives just a few doors down from the garden. “She brings me so many things, and everything she brings is my favorite,” said Triggs.

Since starting her garden, she has started a non-profit to try to turn her small garden into something bigger. She has also received donations to help her continue the good work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Norma Michael for her service in the U.S. Air Force, her community and for being an exemplary citizen in the state of Mississippi.